



without references

Sheet

1 of

14

Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)
2938(203-3646)Application Number
10/718,379

Applicant

Shields et al.

Filing Date
November 20, 2003Group Art Number
3839**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
A.R.	RE36795	7/25/00	RYDELL			
	371,664	10/18/1887	BRANNAN ET AL.			
	702,472	6/17/1902	PIGNOLET			
	728,883	5/26/1903	DOWNES			
	1,586,645	6/1/26	BIERMAN			
	2,002,594	5/28/35	WAPPLER ET AL.			
	2,011,169	8/13/35	F.C. WAPPLER			
	2,176,479	10/17/39	WILLIS			
	2,305,156	4/17/41	GRUBEL			
	2,632,661	8/14/48	CRISTOFV			
	2,668,538	2/9/54	BAKER			
	2,796,065	6/18/57	KAPP			
	3,459,187	3/9/67	PALLOTTA			
	3,643,663	2/22/72	SUTTER			
	3,651,811	3/28/72	HILDEBRANDT ET AL.			
	3,862,630	1/28/75	BALAMUTH			
	3,866,610	2/18/75	KLETSCHKA			
	3,911,766	10/14/75	FRIDOLPH ET AL.			
	3,920,021	11/18/75	HILTEBRANDT			
	3,921,641	11/25/75	HULKA			
	3,938,527	2/17/76	RIOUX ET AL.			
	3,952,749	4/27/76	FRIDOLPH ET AL.			
	4,005,714	2/1/77	HILTEBRANDT			
	4,074,718	2/21/78	MORRISON, JR.			
A.R.	4,088,134	5/9/78	MAZZARIELLO			

Examiner

Date Considered

6/4/08

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
A.R.	4,165,746	8/28/79	BURGIN			
	4,300,564	11/17/81	FURIHATA			
	4,370,980	2/1/83	LOTTICK			
	4,492,231	1/8/85	AUTH			
	4,552,143	11/12/85	LOTTICK			
	4,574,804	3/11/86	KURWA			
	4,597,379	7/1/86	KIHN ET AL.			
	4,657,016	4/14/87	GARITO ET AL.			
	4,671,274	6/9/87	SOROCHENKO			
	4,685,459	8/11/87	XOCH ET AL.			
	4,783,669	8/16/88	JAEGER			
	4,827,929	5/9/89	HODGE			
	4,887,612	12/19/89	ESSER ET AL.			
	4,938,761	7/3/90	ENSSLIN			
	5,007,908	4/16/91	RYDELL			
	5,026,370	6/25/91	LOTTICK			
	5,099,840	3/31/92	GOBLE ET AL.			
	5,116,332	5/26/92	LOTTICK			
	5,151,102	9/29/92	XAMIYAMA ET AL.			
	5,176,695	1/5/93	DULEBOHN			
	5,197,964	3/30/93	PARINS			
	5,215,101	6/1/93	JACOBS ET AL.			
	5,217,457	6/8/93	DELAHUERGA ET AL.			
	5,217,458	6/8/93	PARINS			
	5,244,462	9/14/93	DELAHUERGA ET AL.			
A.R.	5,250,047	10/5/93	RYDELL			

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Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
A.R.	5,258,006	11/2/93	RYDELL ET AL.			
	5,261,918	11/16/93	PHILLIPS ET AL.			
	5,275,615	1/4/94	ROSE			
	5,277,201	1/11/94	STERN			
	5,282,799	2/1/94	RYDELL			
	5,290,286	3/1/94	PARINS			
	5,304,203	4/19/94	EL-MALLAWANY ET AL.			
	5,308,357	5/3/94	LICHTMAN			
	5,318,589	6/7/94	LICHTMAN			
	5,324,289	6/28/94	EGGERS			
	5,330,471	7/19/94	EGGERS			
	5,334,183	8/2/94	WUCHINICH			
	5,334,215	8/2/94	CHEN			
	5,336,221	8/9/94	ANDERSON			
	5,342,359	8/30/94	RYDELL			
	5,342,381	8/30/94	TIDEMAND			
	5,342,393	8/30/94	STACK			
	5,352,222	10/4/94	RYDELL			
	5,354,271	10/11/94	VODA			
	5,356,408	10/18/94	RYDELL			
	5,366,477	11/22/94	LEMARIE, III ET AL.			
	5,383,897	1/24/95	WHOLEY			
	5,389,098	2/14/95	TSURUTA ET AL.			
	5,389,104	2/14/95	HAHNEN ET AL.			
A.R.	5,391,166	2/21/95	EGGERS			

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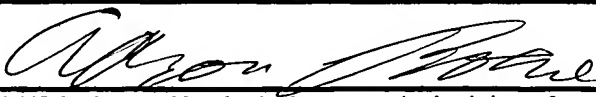
Group Art Number

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
A.R.	5,391,183	2/21/95	JANZEN ET AL.			
	5,403,312	4/4/95	YATES ET AL.			
	5,411,519	5/2/95	TOVEY ET AL.			
	5,411,520	5/2/95	NASH ET AL.			
	5,413,571	5/9/95	KATSAROS ET AL.			
	5,415,657	5/16/95	TAYMOR-LURIA			
	5,423,810	6/13/95	GOBLE ET AL.			
	5,425,739	6/20/95	JESSEN			
	5,429,616	7/4/95	SCHAFER			
	5,431,674	7/11/95	BASILE ET AL.			
	5,437,292	7/4/95	SCHAFER			
	5,438,302	8/1/95	GOBLE			
	5,441,517	8/15/95	KENSEY ET AL.			
	5,443,463	8/22/95	STERN ET AL.			
	5,443,464	8/22/95	RUSSELL ET AL.			
	5,443,480	8/22/95	JACOBS ET AL.			
	5,445,638	8/29/95	RYDELL ET AL.			
	5,445,658	8/29/95	DURRFELD ET AL.			
	5,451,224	9/19/95	GOBLE ET AL.			
	5,456,684	10/10/95	SCHMIDT ET AL.			
	5,458,598	10/17/95	FEINBERG ET AL.			
	5,460,629	10/24/95	SHLAIN ET AL.			
	5,462,546	10/31/95	RYDELL			
	5,472,443	12/5/95	CORDIS ET AL.			
A.R.	5,478,351	12/26/95	MEADE ET AL.			

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
A.R.	5,484,436	1/6/96	EGGERS ET AL.			
	5,496,317	3/5/96	GOBLE ET AL.			
	5,499,997	3/19/96	SHARPE ET AL.			
	5,509,922	4/23/96	ARANYI ET AL.			
	5,514,134	5/7/96	RYDELL ET AL.			
	5,527,313	6/18/96	SCOTT ET AL.			
	5,531,744	7/2/96	NARDELLA ET AL.			
	5,540,684	7/30/96	HASSLER, JR.			
	5,540,685	7/30/96	PARINS, ET AL.			
	5,540,715	7/30/96	KATSAROS ET AL.			
	5,558,672	9/24/96	EDWARDS ET AL.			
	5,569,241	10/29/96	EDWARDDS			
	5,571,100	11/5/96	GOBLE ET AL.			
	5,569,243	10/29/96	KORTENBACH ET AL.			
	5,573,535	11/12/96	VIKLUND			
	5,585,896	12/17/96	YAMAZAKI ET AL.			
	5,590,570	1/7/97	LEMAIRE, III ET AL.			
	5,603,711	2/18/97	PARINS, ET AL.			
	5,603,723	2/18/97	ARANYI ET AL.			
	5,626,578	5/6/97	TIHON			
	5,630,833	5/20/97	KATSAROS ET AL.			
	5,637,110	6/10/97	PENNYBACKER ET AL.			
	5,643,294	7/1/97	TOVEY ET AL.			
	5,647,869	7/15/97	GOBLE ET AL.			
	5,647,871	7/15/97	LEVINE ET AL.			
A.R.	5,649,959	7/22/97	HANNAM ET AL.			

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Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
A.R.	5,658,281	8/19/97	HEARD			
	5,687,528	9/16/97	LEVIN			
	5,674,220	10/7/97	FOX ET AL.			
	5,693,051	12/2/97	SCHULZE ET AL.			
	5,695,522	12/9/97	LEMAIRE, III ET AL.			
	5,700,261	12/23/97	BRINKERHOFF			
	5,702,390	12/30/97	AUSTIN ET AL.			
	5,707,369	1/13/98	VAITEKUNAS ET AL.			
	5,709,680	1/20/98	YATES ET AL.			
	5,727,428	3/17/98	LEMAIRE, III ET AL.			
	5,743,906	4/28/98	PARINS, ET AL.			
	5,755,717	5/28/98	YATES ET AL.			
	5,766,166	6/16/98	HOOVEN			
	5,766,170	6/16/98	EGGERS			
	5,769,849	6/23/98	EGGERS			
	5,776,128	7/7/98	EGGERS			
	5,776,130	7/7/98	BUYSSE ET AL.			
	5,779,701	07/14/98	MCBRAYER ET AL.			
	5,792,137	8/11/98	CARR ET AL.			
	5,792,177	8/11/98	KASEDA			
	5,797,958	08/25/98	YOON			
	5,800,449	9/1/98	WALES			
	5,810,808	9/22/98	EGGERS			
	5,810,811	09/22/98	YATES ET AL.			
	5,814,043	9/29/98	SHAPETON			
	5,827,271	10/27/98	BUYSSE ET AL.			
	5,827,279	10/27/98	HUGHETT ET AL.			
A.R.	5,827,281	10/27/98	LEVIN			

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
A.R.	5,833,690	11/10/98	YATES ET AL.			
	5,843,080	12/1/98	FLEENOR ET AL.			
	5,849,022	12/15/98	SAKASHITA ET AL.			
	5,853,412	12/29/98	MAYENBERGER			
	5,891,141	4/6/99	RYDELL			
	5,891,142	4/6/99	EGGERS ET AL.			
	5,893,863	04/13/99	YOON			
	5,893,875	4/13/99	O'CONNOR ET AL.			
	5,902,301	5/11/99	OLIG			
	5,908,420	7/1/99	PARINS, ET AL.			
	5,913,874	6/22/99	BERNS ET AL.			
	5,921,984	7/13/99	SUTCU ET AL.			
	5,935,126	8/10/99	RIZA			
	5,951,549	9/14/99	RICHARDSON ET AL.			
	5,954,720	9/21/99	WILSON ET AL.			
	5,976,132	11/2/99	MORRIS			
	5,989,277	11/23/99	LEMAIRE, III ET AL.			
	6,004,335	12/21/99	VAITEKUNAS ET AL.			
	6,024,744	2/15/00	KESE ET AL.			
	6,033,399	3/7/00	GINES			
	6,039,733	3/21/00	BUYSSE ET AL.			
	6,050,996	4/18/00	SCHMALTZ ET AL.			
	6,053,914	4/25/00	EGGERS ET AL.			
	6,053,933	4/25/00	BALAZS ET AL.			
	6,083,223	7/4/00	BAKER			
A.R.	6,086,586	7/11/00	HOOVEN			

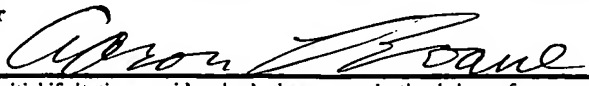
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Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)		Docket Number (Optional) 2938(203-3646)		Application Number 10/718,379		
		Applicant Shields et al.				
		Filing Date November 20, 2003		Group Art Number 3739		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
A.R.	6,090,107	7/18/00	BORGMEIER ET AL.			
	6,090,109	7/18/00	LANDS ET AL.			
	6,096,031	8/1/00	MITCHELL ET AL.			
	6,099,550	8/8/00	YOON			
	6,099,539	8/8/00	HOWELL ET AL.			
	6,102,909	8/15/00	CHEN ET AL.			
	6,110,171	8/29/00	RYDELL			
	6,113,596	9/5/00	HOOVEN ET AL.			
	6,113,598	9/5/00	BAKER			
	6,126,658	10/3/00	BAKER			
	6,152,923	11/28/00	RYAN			
	6,174,309	1/16/01	WRUBLEWSKI ET AL.			
	6,179,834	1/30/01	BUYSSE ET AL.			
	6,179,837	1/30/01	HOOVEN			
	6,183,467	2/6/01	SHAPETON ET AL.			
	6,187,003	2/13/01	BUYSSE ET AL.			
	6,190,386	2/20/01	RYDELL			
	6,193,718	2/27/01	KORTENBACH ET AL.			
	6,206,876	3/27/01	LEVINE ET AL.			
	6,206,877	3/27/01	KESE ET AL.			
	6,206,896	3/27/01	HOWELL ET AL.			
	6,224,593	5/1/01	RYAN ET AL.			
	6,228,080	5/8/01	GINES			
	6,228,083	5/8/01	LANDS ET AL.			
	6,267,761	7/31/01	RYAN			
	6,273,887	8/14/01	YAMAUCHI ET AL.			
	6,273,902	8/14/01	FOGARTY ET AL.			
	6,277,117	8/21/01	TETZLAFF ET AL.			
A.R.	6,334,860	1/1/02	DORN			
Examiner 				Date Considered 6/4/08		
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
A.R.		EP1082944A1	3/14/01	EP				
		EP1080694A1	3/7/01	EP				
		EP1055400A1	11/29/00	EP				
		EP1055399A1	11/29/00	EP				
		EP1053720A1	11/22/00	EP				
		EP1053719A1	11/22/00	EP				
		EP1050278A1	11/8/00	EP				
		EP1034746A3	10/18/00	EP				
		EP1025807A3	10/4/00	EP				
		EP1034748A1	9/13/00	EP				
		EP1034747A1	9/13/00	EP				
		EP0923907A1	6/23/99	EP				
		EP0887046A3	1/13/99	EP				
		EP0754437A3	3/19/97	EP				
		EP0717966A1	6/26/96	EP				
		EP0694290A3	3/13/96	EP				
		EP0650701A1	5/3/95	EP				
		EP0623316A1	11/9/94	EP				
		EP0364216A1	4/18/90	EP				
		EPO518230A1	12/16/92	EP				
		EP0 541 930 B1	5/19/93	EP				
		EP0572131	12/1/93	EP				
		EPO584787A1	3/2/94	EP				
A.R.		EPO853922A1	7/22/98	EP				

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	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
A.R.	JP5-40112	not avail.	Japan				
	JP2001128990A2	5/15/01	Japan				
	JP2001029356A2	2/6/01	Japan				
	JP2001008944A2	1/16/01	Japan				
	JP2000350732A2	12/19/00	Japan				
	JP2000342599A2	12/12/00	Japan				
	JP11244298A2	8/14/99	Japan				
	JP09010223A2	1/14/97	Japan				
	JP08252263A2	10/1/96	Japan				
	JP08056955A2	3/5/96	Japan				
	JP07265328A2	10/17/95	Japan				
A.R.	JP06343644A2	12/20/94	Japan				
	SU401387		Russia				
A.R.	WO 82/06642	4/30/92	PCT				
	WO 85/02369	1/26/95	PCT				
	WO 97/00646	1/9/97	PCT				
	WO 97/00647	1/9/97	PCT				
	WO 97/24073	7/10/97	PCT				
	WO 97/24993	7/17/97	PCT				
	WO 98/27880	7/2/98	PCT				
	WO 99/03407	1/28/99	PCT				
	WO 99/03408	1/28/99	PCT				
	WO 99/03409	1/28/99	PCT				
	WO 99/40857	8/19/99	PCT				
	WO 99/51158	10/14/99	PCT				
	WO 00/24330	5/4/00	PCT				
	WO 00/41638	7/20/00	PCT				
	WO 00/53112	9/14/00	PCT				
	WO 01/54604	8/2/01	PCT				
	WO 02/080796 A1	10/17/02	PCT				
	DE 19608716	4/17/97	DE				
	2,214,430A	6/9/89	GB				
A.R.	2,104,423	2/25/94	CANADA				

Examiner



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)		Applicant Shields et al.	
		Filing Date November 20, 2003	Group Art Number 3739
OTHER DOCUMENTS			
A.R.	Sigel et al. "The Mechanism of Blood Vessel Closure by High Frequency Electrocoagulation"		
	SURGERY GYNECOLOGY & OBSTETRICS, OCT 1965 pp. 823-831		
	Bergdahl et al. "Studies on Coagulation and the Development of an Automatic Computerized Bipolar Coagulator"		
	J. NEUROSURG, VOL. 75, JULY 1991, pp 148-151		
	Kennedy et al. "High-burst-strength, feedback-controlled bipolar vessel sealing"		
	SURGICAL ENDOSCOPY (1998) 12: 878-878		
	Peterson et al. "Comparison of Healing Process Following Ligation with Sutures and Bipolar Vessel Sealing"		
	SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY INTERNATIONAL (2001)		
	Linehan et al. "A Phase I Study of the LigaSure Vessel Sealing System in Hepatic Surgery"		
	Section of HPB Surger, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis MO, Presented at AHPBA, February 2001		
	Johnson et al. "Evaluation of the LigaSure Vessel Sealing System in Hemorrhoidectomy"		
	AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS (ACS) CLINICAL CONGRESS POSTER (2000)		
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Aaron Boone

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Examiner

Alison B. Jones

Date Considered

6/4/08

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Examiner

Erion Boore

Date Considered

6/4/88

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Examiner

Carson Higgins

Date Considered

6/4/08

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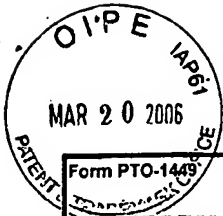
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Examiner

Adrian Boone

Date Considered

6/4/08

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Applicant

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	Int'l Search Report EP 05019130.3 dated October 18, 2005
	Int'l Search Report EP 05020665.5 dated February 16, 2006
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	Int'l Search Report EP 05021937.7 dated January 13, 2006
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	Int'l Search Report EP 05021780.1 dated February 9, 2006
A.R.	Int'l Search Report EP 06002279.5 dated March 22, 2006

Examiner <i>Asen Bone</i>	Date Considered <i>6/14/08</i>
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Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.



without references

Sheet

1 of

3

Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)
2938(203-3646)Application Number
10/718,379

Applicant

Shields et al.

Filing Date

November 20, 2003

Group Art Number

3739

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Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
A.R.	4,041,952	8/16/77	MORRISON, JR. ET AL.			
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	5,084,057	1/28/92	GREEN ET AL.			
	5,196,009	3/23/93	KIRWAN, JR.			
	5,217,460	6/8/93	KNOEPFLER			
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Examiner

Date Considered


6/4/08

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Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number (Optional) 2938(203-3646)	Application Number 10/718,379
	Applicant Shields et al.	
	Filing Date November 20, 2003	Group Art Number 3739

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A.R.	Int'l Search Report EP 1683496 dated June 13, 2006

Examiner 	Date Considered 6/4/08
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